Department of Planning and Budget
2026 General Assembly Session
State Fiscal Impact Statement

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Bill Number: HB781ER **Patron:** Herring
Bill Title: Constitutional amendment (voter referendum); fundamental right to reproductive freedom.

Bill Summary: Provides for a referendum at the November 3, 2026, election to approve or reject an amendment to the Constitution of Virginia relating to the right to make one's own decisions related to reproductive health care, including access to abortion. The amendment protects patients and their doctors and nurses from being punished for making such decisions. The amendment allows the state to place restrictions on access to abortion during the third trimester of pregnancy except when the patient's life or physical or mental health is at risk or the pregnancy cannot survive.

Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes **Items Impacted:** Item 77
Explanation: See Below

Fiscal Summary: There is an anticipated fiscal impact to the Department of Elections to meet the provisions of this bill.

General Fund Expenditure Impact:

Agency	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030	FY2031
The Department of Elections	-	$205,000	-	-	-	-
TOTAL		**$205,000**				

Fiscal Analysis: The Department of Elections (ELECT) estimates the cost to meet the requirements of section 30-19.9 of the Code of Virginia, required ELECT to run advertisements in state newspapers and prepare posters and pamphlets providing public notice about statewide referendums. Based on current estimates the cost will be $205,000.

Other: N/A